

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the Royal Observatory, Cape on Monday 1971 June 21 at 8.00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Bentley (in the Chair), Drs. Cousins, Fairall and Wild, Messrs Atkins, Hurly, Lagerwey, Orpen, Weinberg and Russo.

Apologies for absence received from Prof. Jarrett, Messrs. Allen, Churms Harding and Simenhoff.

Minutes of the previous Council Meeting held May 17 taken as read.

Matters arising: Nil except as appearing on the Agenda.

New Members: The following were elected subject to their names being published in MNASSA and no objection being received.

Full Members:

Mr. B. Gordon-Brown, Suite 9, Adelphi Building, Main Road, Sea Point, Cape  
Mr. B. A. Lotter, 39 Liscard Street, Kenwyn, Cape  
Mr. G. M. Mansfield, 22 Millvale, Loxton Road, Milnerton, Cape  
Dr. J.C.L.A., Mertens, 45 Ostend, Beach Road, Sea Point, Cape.  
Mr. Franz Moldaschl, Catholic Church, "Breda", P.O. Fouriesburg-Stat. O.F.S.  
Dr. L. Paster, 2 St. Mungo Court, Victoria Road, Clifton, Cape  
Mr. K. Rochford, c/o 3 Rouwkoop Road, Rondebosch, Cape.  
Mr. G. Scheffer, 129 Malherbe Street, Capital Park, Pretoria.  
Mr. W. H. Snow, No. 1 Philmar Court, McKinley Road, Kenilworth, Cape  
Mr. P. S. Thompson, c/o Dept. of History, Univ. of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.  
Mr. W. J. van der Merwe, 9 Crombie Street, The Strand, Cape.  
Mr. G. Henderson, 1735 Sunningdale Bend, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

Student Member:

Mr. J. Clark, "Inglegarth" St. Patricks Road, Newlands, Cape.

Mr. G. J. Sizoo was also elected subject to the correct completion of his Nomination Form.

With the continued growth in membership, it was approved to make a further increase in the number of "Sky and Telescopes" on order to 380 with effect from July, 1971.

Finance: The Hon. Treasurer presented the Financial Statement. ( see over ).

The Hon. Treasurer raised the question of the refund of the subscription of R6 paid in by the P.E. Peoples Observatory Society in error as the Society had resigned. An only three issues of "Sky and Telescope" had been sent before effect had been given to the resignation, the refund was approved.

The following nominations for the new Council for the Session 1971/72 had been received by the closing date on June 15:

President	:	Prof. A. H. Jarrett
Vice-Presidents	:	Mr. W. C. Bentley Mr. K. J. Sterling Mr. G. A. Harding Mr. C. Papadopoulos
Members of Council	:	Dr. A. Fairall Dr. A. D. Thackeray Mr. J. Hers Mr. C. J. Poole
Hon. Secretary	:	Mr. T. W. Russo
Hon. Treasurer	:	Mr. G. Orpen

As the Constitution limits the number of Vice-Presidents to three it would be necessary to issue ballot forms to all members for their decision.

Financial Statement as on 1971 June 21.

Expenditure	R	c	Receipts	R	c
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope" for year	1160	12	Credit Balance at 1/7/1970	340	64
Cost of production of MNASSA, April 1970 to April 1971 and of Handbook 1971	990	21	<u>Subscriptions</u>		
Cost of reprints of articles in MNASSA	12	96	Arrears	35	50
Cost of reproduction of back nos. of MNASSA	266	56	Current	1812	50
Postage of publications	208	24	Advnnee	153	50
Postage on reprints	1	75	Entrance Fees		172 50
Postage on back numbers	28	12	Sale of MNASSA		277 72
Stationery	113	62	Sale of reprints of articles in MNASSA		64 50
Postage, other than above	33	92	Sale of reproduced back numbers of MNASSA		209 90
Essay Competition Prizes	32	00	Publication of articles in MNASSA		16 00
Cost of 150th Anniversary booklets, Royal Obs. at the Cape of Good Hope, distributed to members	100	00	Sale of Handbooks		71 50
Fire Insurance Premium Transferred to Savings Bank Account 18/8/1970	500	00	Sale of back and extra numbers of "Sky & Telescope"		24 20
Placed on Fixed Deposit with United Building Society 25/3/1971	1000	00	Sale of copies of Otten's "How to make a 6-inch Mirror"		2 50
Bank Charges	48	82	Sale of "Universal Sundial"		0 50
Credit Balance at 21/6/1971	197	57	Sale of surplus copies of Royal Obs. 150th Anniversary booklet	18	15
			Advertisement in MNASSA	2	00
			Donations		20 40
			Interest on Building Society Shares		14 75
			Interest on Savings Bank A/c.		54 20
			Withdrawn from Savings Bank A/c March 1971	1400	00
			Commission on Cheques and Airmail Postage Paid		6 97
	R	4697 93		R	4697 93

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R488.62, interest amounting to R26.79 having been received from Syfret's Trust Co. during May and interest amounting to R11.32 having been credited by the United Building Society in the same month.

Garrett Orpen

Hon. Treasurer.

Report of Council: The draft report prepared by the Hon. Secretary was considered and where necessary suitably amended. This report was for the year ending June 30, and was for presentation to the Annual General Meeting of the Society in July.

Annual General Meeting: Agreed that the venue would be in Cape Town, and the date July 28, at 8.00 p.m. All members would be duly circularized.

50th and 60th Anniversaries relating to the Society: Dr. Wild reported that the Department of Extra Mural Studies was agreeable to the 1972 U.C.T. Summer School covering a series of lectures in Astronomy. The present Astronomer Royal, Sir Richard Woolley, who would be in South Africa as the Director of the South African National Observatory, had intimated that he would support the project. It was suggested that as soon as approximate dates were known, members should be notified.

Constitution: Possible revision before a reprinting. Mr. Russo reported on the deliberations of the sub-committee appointed to consider the question and any recommendations received from Council Members. There was further lengthy discussion by the meeting, with the following outcome.

Agreed that in general the Articles as contained in the present Constitution as amended to date should stand, with a few minor grammatical alterations, and the following amendments made.

Art. IV: The Society should be governed by ..... and the Editor or a member of the Editorial Board, and the Business Manager.

Art. V. para. 2: Replace "or Editors" by "or Editorial Board" and insert "and Business Manager".

Art. XII. para 2: Last line to read "Associate Members and Student Members are not eligible to vote.

The portions underlined are additional wordings to the present text.

These proposed alterations would in due course be put to ballot for decision by members.

Council decided to retain the class of membership known as "Corresponding Members". The minutes recording its introduction were studied, and as the sub-committee's recommendation at that time had been endorsed by a members ballot, no change was recommended.

Miscellaneous: Professor Jarrett's letter of the 7th June, apologizing for his inability to attend this meeting was read. Council was pleased to note that he would be in Cape Town for the Astronomical Session of the Physics Institute Conference in July, and also was gratified at his offer of the Boyden Observatory as a possible venue for the Society's Annual General Meeting next year.

Mr. Hurly gave a brief account of plans underway for a possible combined effort by all Centres and interested individuals to observe grazing occultations at Bloemfontein in August at the time of the total eclipse of the Moon.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 11.15 p.m.

T. W. Russo

Hon. Secretary.

Chairman:

